

The American Observer

A free, virtuous, and enlightened people must know well the great principles and causes on which their happiness depends.—James Monroe

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Jim's Answer

By Walter E. Myer

THREE is a man in my neighborhood who is held in exceptionally high regard by all who know him. During the many years I have been acquainted with Jim, I have heard him praised on frequent occasions. I do not recall ever hearing a single person say anything against him. While talking with him one day, I asked this question:

"What's the secret of your popularity? I have never known anyone who is so well-liked and respected by his friends and associates as you are. Never has there been any criticism of you in my presence—only good remarks. How do you do it?"

Jim acted really surprised. "I think you're exaggerating how my friends feel about me," he said. "But if what you say is true, which I doubt, there is only one possible explanation that occurs to me. There is one rule that I have always followed, and it is this: I always try to speak well of others. If I can't speak well of them, then I remain silent."

In thinking it over, I feel that Jim put his finger on the big reason for his well-earned popularity. It is a fact that he does look for the good qualities in his associates. Whenever he mentions those who are not present, it is their good points that he stresses. If they have defects—and most people do—Jim refrains from talking about them.

One finds many people who seem to follow the opposite policy. They are always on the lookout for flaws in others. They are quick to criticize their associates, even good friends, when the latter are not present.

Such an attitude is harmful to all concerned. Unpleasant words about another usually get back to the person at whom they were directed. Naturally, hard feelings are created. Moreover, one who habitually indulges in petty sniping and criticism is bound to lose the respect of those who overhear him. Listening to him criticize others, his associates ask themselves: "What does he say about me behind my back?"

There are times when criticism of another may be justified, but it should be voiced directly to the person whom it concerns. Then, if the criticism is just, it may be so recognized, and the criticized individual may take positive action to correct the flaws that are brought to his attention. On the other hand, if the criticism is unfair, the one who is criticized may defend himself.

The person who is continually criticizing someone else probably does so in the attempt to cover up his own inadequacies. Attacking others, however, does not solve anyone's personality or character problems, but leads only to further complications.

Jim's rule of never speaking harshly of others behind their backs is a good one to cultivate. Followed over a long period of time, this policy is bound to bring anyone increased popularity and respect among those with whom he associates.



Walter E. Myer



BY HIDING behind a Constitutional provision which states that a person need not testify against himself, communists frequently manage to avoid answering questions, asked by various investigating groups, about their subversive acts

The 5th Amendment

Witnesses Before Congressional Committees Often Use the Privilege of Refusing to Testify Against Themselves

AS ALL who follow the news are aware, last month's bitter McCarthy-Stevens controversy involved a dentist—Irving Peress—who was honorably discharged from the Army after serious questions had been raised concerning his loyalty. Senator Joseph McCarthy calls Peress a "Fifth Amendment communist."

What he means is this: Dr. Peress, when asked under oath to tell whether he had engaged in communist activities, would not reply. He remained silent in accordance with a privilege granted to all American citizens in the Fifth Amendment of the Constitution.

What is this Fifth Amendment privilege that is so often used by people who are being questioned about subversive or other illegal activities? The answer calls for some explanation.

Governments in the United States and all other democratic countries try to make sure that any person who is accused of crime gets every possible chance to prove his innocence, and that he is not convicted unfairly. To safeguard the rights of those who are accused or suspected, various restrictions are placed on law-enforcement officers and upon the courts.

One such restriction is that *no person can be required to give testimony which might cause him to be convicted of a crime*. If John Doe is on trial for murder, he cannot lawfully be forced to take the witness stand and answer questions. If he *wants* to speak, he may do so; but he has a right to remain silent. He is not required to testify against himself.

This rule became an accepted principle of English law while our country was still in the colonial stage. Eventually it was written into the Fifth Amendment of our federal Constitution, and into almost all the state constitutions.

It is today very broadly applied. Judges declare that it covers testimony not only in court trials and grand jury inquiries, but also in congressional committee probes and in other hearings where evidence is taken.

Even though congressional committees themselves do not formally convict and punish anyone, facts that a witness reveals to such committees might later be used against him in a criminal prosecution. This is why

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Southeast Asia Is Vital Region

Thickly Populated Area, Rich in Rubber and Tin, Is Big Target for Communists

AMERICANS hear a great deal today about the importance of Southeast Asia. Military and economic experts say that loss of the region to communism would be a sharp blow to the free world.

At present, interest in Southeast Asia centers mostly on Indochina. In that land, communists have been trying to gain power by war for more than seven years. Recently, the Reds increased the strength of their attacks. There is danger that they may conquer Indochina with a sudden offensive.

An effort to end the Indochinese conflict by agreement will be made next month. Representatives of the U.S., Great Britain, France, Russia, and communist China are to discuss the issue at a meeting in Geneva, Switzerland, beginning April 26. Our government looks upon peace in Indochina as a first big step toward checking communism in all Southeast Asia.

Just what is included in Southeast Asia? It is made up of countries and territories that take in a long peninsula on the Asiatic continent and a narrow string of thousands of islands. The peninsula and the islands form a chain, broken by straits, between the Indian Ocean and the Pacific Ocean.

Southeast Asia includes Burma, Thailand, Indochina, Indonesia, the Malayan Federation, Singapore, British North Borneo, Sarawak, Brunei, and Portuguese Timor (see map).

Total population of the region is around 154 million—or a little less than the present U.S. population of about 161½ million. Southeast Asia's area of over 1,450,000 square miles is not quite half the size of the United States.

Agriculture is the chief occupation of most of the people, and rice is a leading food product. The region produces about 90 per cent of the world's natural rubber and more than half of the world's tin. Large forests yield valuable hardwoods. Southeast Asia has some oil. It also has large mineral resources, but most of these are undeveloped.

The people are mostly poor by American standards, but, in general, they get enough to eat. In this respect, the southeastern people are better off than many of their neighbors—such as the Chinese and Indians, who often suffer from hunger and starvation.

What are the various countries and territories like? They vary in size, population, resources, and in the kind of trade they carry on with the rest of the world. Discussions of each follow:

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Communists and the Fifth Amendment

(Concluded from page 1)

Senate or House investigators cannot force a witness to give evidence against himself. Very familiar, therefore, has become the statement: "I refuse to answer, on grounds that the reply might tend to incriminate me."

Witnesses who make this plea, and do it in the correct legal manner, go unpunished despite their refusal to give information. Many Americans are indignant over the rule against self-incrimination. "Why," it is often asked, "are witnesses given such a loophole through which to escape exposure or avoid punishment?"

History provides at least a partial answer. Centuries ago, the torturing or threatening of witnesses in order to obtain "admissions" of guilt was a fairly common practice. As a result of pain, exhaustion, or fear, the prisoner would usually confess, whether guilty or not.

We need not go into the distant past for examples of such procedure. The German Nazis used it, and so do communist countries now. American prisoners in Korea, tormented beyond endurance by their Red captors, falsely testified that they and their fighting comrades had been conducting germ warfare, under orders of the UN military command.

Our federal and state constitutions, by declaring that no one in this country can be forced to testify against himself, help to protect accused persons against such unfair and cruel treatment. In our courts, any evidence which a witness gives against himself must be truly voluntary if it is to be legal and binding.

Occasionally, even in America, we hear of cases in which accused persons are abused by the police or treated

For instance, membership in the Communist Party is not in itself a crime under our federal laws. But communists are often tried and punished for the subversive acts which their political beliefs lead them to commit.

So the U. S. Supreme Court has ruled that a person can refuse—on grounds of possible self-incrimination—to tell whether or not he is a communist. If a witness admits that he is a communist, says the Court, he might thereby furnish "a link in the chain of evidence" that could eventually convict him of criminally disloyal activity.

Thus, the Fifth Amendment gives a person broad *legal* protection if he refuses to testify before government agencies, but it does not safeguard his reputation. When a witness in court or elsewhere declines to answer a question and explains that the reply might incriminate him, he puts a tremendous amount of suspicion upon himself. People say: "He's guilty of something. Otherwise he wouldn't be afraid to answer."

Some time ago, two professors from Rutgers University were called before a U. S. Senate investigating committee but would not answer questions as to whether they were communists. Since

ice. If they did so, they would lose respect in their communities and would find it difficult to make a living.

It is to be seen, in any case, that while our federal and state constitutions prevent the *courts* from punishing someone who refuses to answer questions that might incriminate him, the person is not protected against loss of his job, or against considerable disgrace and public disapproval.

Some Americans say that no person should be forced to decide whether he will answer questions on his guilt or innocence in any matter. It is argued that courts and investigating bodies should not even be allowed to *ask* such questions, since refusal to answer will automatically harm the reputation of the witness.

People who hold this viewpoint argue as follows: "As matters now stand,

Suppose a man is being examined by a congressional committee. He refuses to answer a question, explaining that the reply might incriminate him. So the chairman asks other committee members: 'Shall we make him immune from prosecution on this point?' If two thirds of the committee vote *Yes*, then the witness must answer the question or risk going to jail. *But never afterward can he be prosecuted*



ATTORNEY GENERAL Herbert Brownell, Jr. He wants Congress to pass a measure such as the one that Senator McCarran sponsors.

in a federal court for any crime that he is thus forced to mention.

Various arguments are brought up in opposition to this measure. Some people oppose any plan that would openly enable wrongdoers to escape punishment for serious crimes. Others oppose the idea of requiring witnesses to testify against themselves under *any* circumstances. It is argued that these witnesses might, as a result of their confessions, suffer damage almost as bad as imprisonment.

Supporters of the "immunity" measure reject these arguments. "All we need to do," they contend, "is to protect the witness's Constitutional rights against giving testimony that might eventually help convict him in court. We don't need to be greatly concerned about damaging his reputation. Refusal to testify damages it just as badly. Besides, if the person has committed a crime, his reputation doesn't deserve protection."

McCarran and his friends admit that the proposed law would enable some wrongdoers to escape punishment. But they say it would enable congressional committees to obtain far more information than they can get at present. Congress, so goes the argument, could do a better job of lawmaking.

U. S. Attorney General Herbert Brownell, Jr., has indicated that he favors such a measure.

This dispute over the Fifth Amendment and the "immunity" proposal is one of the countless arguments arising in connection with a problem which faces all democracies—that of protecting the individual's rights while at the same time safeguarding the best interest of the nation as a whole.

SENATOR Pat McCarran of Nevada. His proposed measure to help investigators obtain information from suspected communists has passed the Senate and awaits House action.

the Fifth Amendment doesn't really give complete protection. A person is given the Constitutional privilege of refusing to testify, and then he is condemned if he takes advantage of it."

Larger numbers of people, however, feel that the government is *too easy* on witnesses who are unwilling to testify. Americans with this latter viewpoint think it should be possible for a congressional committee to *demand* information about a witness's own criminal activities.

There is, apparently, one method through which the committees could legally require such information to be given. Congress could pass a law making the witness immune from prosecution or punishment for any act concerning which he is forced to testify.

Under such a provision, a few criminals would be allowed to escape punishment. By granting them immunity and requiring them to testify, however, investigating groups might uncover information about many additional lawbreakers.

Federal statutes now include an immunity law (many years old) aimed at witnesses who appear before congressional committees, but it is not strong enough to be of much use. A newer and stronger measure, sponsored by Senator Pat McCarran of Nevada, is already halfway through Congress. Passed by the Senate in July 1953, it is under study in a House committee as we go to press. Here is how it would operate:



IRVING PERESS, former Army dentist who wouldn't say whether he had been connected with the communists. A bitter dispute arose over the way in which Army officials handled his case.

they claimed the privilege against self-incrimination, they couldn't be sent to jail for refusing. On the other hand, Rutgers could and did fire them. School authorities thought these men had put themselves under too much suspicion to remain valuable as teachers.

In the Army, according to recently issued instructions, officers who won't say whether or not they are communists will receive discharges "other than honorable." There is fear, however, that a few officers may try to use this provision as a means of escaping military service. So the Army wants Congress to pass a law which would make sure that such individuals could be required to serve without commissions. As enlisted men, they would receive less pay and would be deprived of the privileges that go with an officer's rank.

Opponents of this plan argue that no person who is suspected of communist connections should be kept in the Army at *any* rank. Few individuals, it is asserted, would actually pretend to be pro-communist just for the purpose of avoiding military serv-



WENDELL FURRY, Harvard professor, last year took advantage of the Fifth Amendment and refused to tell a congressional committee whether or not he had ever been a communist.

unfairly by other law-enforcement officials. But our laws are against such methods and our courts will rule against forced admissions of guilt. Under communist and various other totalitarian governments, the use of force to obtain confessions is a regular practice.

The protection which our laws grant against self-incrimination is quite extensive. It not only means that a person can refuse to give *full details* about any crime he may have committed; it also means that he can, in most cases, refuse to give information which might *very indirectly* lead to his being prosecuted.

One of the illusions of life is that the present hour is not the critical, decisive hour. Write it in your heart that every day is the best day of the year.

—RALPH WALDO EMERSON

The Story of the Week

News at a Glance

The Camp Fire Girls are celebrating their 44th birthday this week. The movement, which was founded by a group of educators on March 17, 1910, now has some 370,000 members between 7 and 18 years of age. Camp Fire Girls conduct citizenship projects, help needy people, and carry out other programs of service to their communities. They also engage in indoor and outdoor recreational activities of many kinds.

The Senate approved Earl Warren as Chief Justice of the U. S. Supreme Court. Despite a brief fight over his confirmation last month, Warren was approved without a single objection from the Senate floor. The Californian has been serving in the land's highest judicial post since his appointment last fall.

Easter Seals will go on sale next Thursday, March 18. Funds from the sale of these Seals are used to help crippled children.

Pakistani officials announced the following two top winners of a 1,500-word contest on *Pakistan—a Friendly Nation*: Michael Grady Woods, Taylor High School, Taylor, Texas; and Sigrid Jan Larson, Topeka High School, Topeka, Kansas.

These lucky winners will receive a 30-day visit to Pakistan with all expenses paid by the Pakistan Embassy. They are scheduled to leave for the Asiatic land early next month.

In addition to the two big prizes for the boy and girl writing the best essays, 18 additional prizes are being awarded. These consist of goods from Pakistan to the runner-up winners.

These are among the big questions dealt with at the 10th Inter-American Conference, which opened earlier this month in Caracas, Venezuela: (1) Steps to curb communism in the Western Hemisphere; (2) efforts to increase trade among nations on this side of the globe; and (3) plans to encourage private U. S. business investment in Latin America.

The "Bricker Amendment" to our Constitution is again among the "live" issues in the Senate. The proposed constitutional change, which would put curbs on the federal government's treaty-making powers, was defeated in the upper house late last month. However, North Carolina's Democratic Senator Alton Lennon brought the proposal back to life when he called for a reconsideration of the last Senate vote on the suggested amendment.



THE AVERAGE NAVAJO INDIAN lives only 20 years. Governmental and private agencies are trying, however, to improve the situation. Above, Indian patients receive attention at a Presbyterian hospital in the Arizona section of the tremendously large Navajo reservation.

Puerto Rican Terrorists

Congress has tightened its security measures as a result of the wild shooting by four Puerto Rican Nationalists in the U. S. House of Representatives early this month. More police have been added to the Capitol Hill force. Measures have also been taken to apply more rigorous rules for admitting visitors to the Senate and House galleries.

The Puerto Ricans who shot at House members are extremists who want full independence for their island. This group, which is accused of having communist ties, is estimated to have no more than 500 members. Most Puerto Ricans support leaders who want to continue that land's close ties with the U. S. A few other islanders want complete independence, but they oppose the terrorist methods of the Nationalists in seeking support for their aims.

Actually, President Eisenhower reminded the Puerto Ricans late last year that they can have full self-rule any time they ask for it. A decision on that matter is up to the island's legislative body, which recently turned down a proposal for independence.

Because the extreme Nationalists have been unable to win at the ballot box, they try to get their way through the use of violence against public officials at home and in the U. S. Pro-

posals are now being discussed to prevent known terrorists from coming to the mainland. Meanwhile, those who engaged in the Capitol Hill shooting will be tried as quickly as possible.

Plight of the Navajos

Congress is now taking a close look at living conditions of the Navajos and other Indians on reservations set aside for them by our government. The lawmakers are considering proposals to help improve the lot of these "first Americans."

Congress was recently shocked to learn that living conditions among the Navajos are so poor that the average member of the tribe can expect to live no longer than 20 years! By comparison, other Americans have a life span of about 68½ years. The report on the plight of the Navajos was made to the legislators by Dr. James Shaw, of the Interior Department's Bureau of Indian Affairs.

The Navajos were once a mighty, warlike tribe that lived in the southwestern section of the nation. In 1863, they were forced to promise that they would never fight again. They kept their promise.

There are now about 72,000 Navajos on a huge government reservation which covers parts of Arizona, Utah, and New Mexico. Many live in earth-covered huts, and follow the customs

of their forefathers. Their land is dry and dusty. Some eke out a living by growing corn or raising livestock. Others make fine rugs and artistic work of silver.

Famous Brothers

When President Eisenhower wants someone to go on a good will tour or carry out some other special assignment, he often calls on his brother, Dr. Milton Eisenhower, to do the job. Among other activities, Dr. Eisenhower, who is president of Pennsylvania State University, made a special good-neighbor trip to Latin American countries last year.

The Eisenhower administration has a number of other brothers on its team. They are:

John Foster Dulles, Secretary of State, and Allen Dulles, chief of the Central Intelligence Agency.

General Nathan Twining, military chief of the Air Force, and Major General Merrill Twining, assistant to the chief of the Marine Corps.

General Alfred Gruenther, commander of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization forces, and Homer Gruenther, who helps keep the White House and Capitol Hill working as a team.

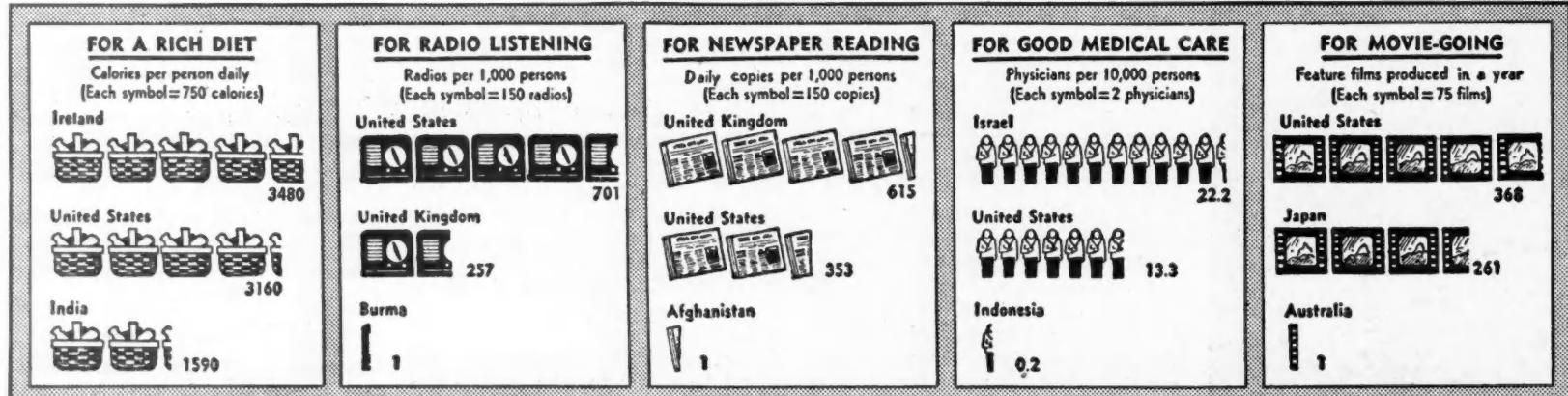
Attorney General Herbert Brownell, chief of the Justice Department, and Samuel Brownell, who directs Uncle Sam's educational programs as head of the U. S. Office of Education.

Argument Continues

Earlier this year, the Eisenhower administration declared that it had fired some 2,200 government employees, who had worked for Democratic administrations, under the new GOP security program. Since that announcement was made, a number of Americans have asked for a breakdown of this figure, showing the reasons why these workers were dismissed.

Recently, the government's chief personnel agency, the Civil Service Commission, released some information on the fired public workers. The commission reported as follows:

A total of 2,429 workers were fired or resigned in 1953 as a result of the Eisenhower administration's security program. Of this number, 422 had been charged at one time or another with being subversive. The chairman of the commission said he didn't know, however, whether any of these employees had actually been proved to be communists or disloyal.



HOW AMERICA COMPARES with other lands in several important respects. Each chart gives figures for the United States, for the highest-ranking foreign

nation, and for a foreign country that ranks comparatively low. Information is from the recently published United Nations Statistical Yearbook.

NEW YORK TIMES



PAKISTAN'S AMBASSADOR, Syed Amjad Ali, and Miss Nighat Shoaib of his staff look over entries in the Pakistan essay contest (see page 4 note).

The remainder of the 2,427 workers were dismissed because they were alcoholics or because they couldn't be trusted for other reasons.

Democratic leaders are criticizing the Civil Service Commission's report. They argue: "We still don't know just how many of these ex-government workers were fired because they were shown to be Reds or pro-communists. The nation should be told the truth on this matter. Meanwhile, the commission's report shows that certain GOP leaders made false charges when they told the country that nearly all persons fired under the security program were Reds."

The Republicans answer: "It is difficult to prove charges of disloyalty against former public employees in some cases. At any rate, the important fact to keep in mind is that those who were fired under our security program were dismissed from public employment because they were considered to be dangerous to our national welfare."

How Did It Turn Out?

There is still a difference of opinion over which side has come out the better thus far in the dispute between Army Secretary Stevens and Senator McCarthy. Supporters of the Wisconsin lawmaker have this to say on the subject:

"Senator McCarthy was able to get the Army to admit that it had badly handled certain cases involving personnel accused of disloyalty. Stevens has taken steps to tighten loyalty rules in his branch of the service as a result of McCarthy's probes."

"Also, the Army now agrees with the Wisconsin legislator that its officers and men can be questioned by congressional investigators if called to testify on questions of loyalty and other issues. Stevens at one time was opposed to this idea."

Supporters of Stevens take this position: "McCarthy suffered a defeat as a result of his run-in with the Army. His rough handling of patriotic General Zwicker and others at his hearings outraged most Americans."

"Even members of his own party

are proposing new rules to limit certain powers of congressional investigators. Some Republicans want to set up a special Senate-House group to investigate communist activities in the country—a proposal that might greatly weaken the Wisconsin senator's power in this investigating field. The President, too, has voiced strong objections to the kind of investigative methods employed by Senator McCarthy."

Illegal Immigrants

Some 600 patrolmen of the U.S. Immigration Service keep watch over our border with Mexico. They try to prevent persons from crossing the boundary line illegally. Despite efforts of border patrols, however, it is estimated that over a million Mexicans illegally crossed into the U.S. last year.

These people seek jobs on American farms. They cross the border because wages are higher here than they are in Mexico, and because there is not enough work for them at home. These migrants have been nicknamed "wetbacks" because many of them swim the Rio Grande to U.S. soil. By swimming the river, they hope to escape detection.

Not all Mexicans cross the border

illegally. A limited number of farm workers are permitted to enter the U.S. for certain periods of time to help American farmers harvest their crops. But the thousands of Mexicans who can't get in legally continue to cross the border any way they can.

Now, Congress is considering measures to (1) improve the method of recruiting Mexican workers for jobs on our farms; and (2) tighten border controls to reduce the number of illegal crossings.

Safe-Driving Proposals

High school students of Maryland's Montgomery County, on the outskirts of the nation's capital, are launching a new anti-reckless driving campaign. They hope to promote driving and pedestrian safety among teen-agers, and earn public respect for good young drivers.

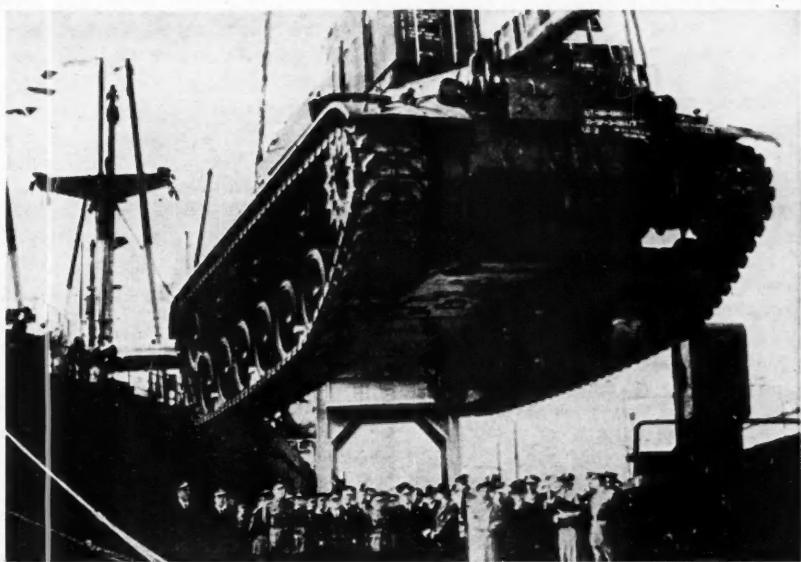
The Montgomery County students formed a special youth council to work out safe driving rules for teen-agers. Some of the group's suggestions on how to combat recklessness on the highway include the following:

1. Establish a car rodeo in the county in which young drivers can demonstrate their skills under the supervision of adults.
2. Promote "take-it-easy" races in which the driver who covers the greatest distance with the smallest amount of gasoline is the winner.
3. Encourage the setting up of hot-rod clubs and other groups to promote safe-driving habits among teen-agers.

Can You Answer Them?

Do 18-year-olds have the political knowledge necessary to make wise decisions at the polls? Supporters of a proposed Constitutional amendment, which would lower the voting age to 18, say "yes" to this question. Opponents of the voting change answer in the negative.

A short time ago, public opinion researcher Dr. George Gallup and his helpers conducted a nation-wide sample poll quizzing persons of various age groups on their knowledge of current events. Those queried were asked such questions as these: How many states will elect members of the U. S. House of Representatives this fall? What is the purpose of the Bricker Amendment? What are the



THIS TANK, unloaded at Cartagena, Spain, is part of the first shipment of U. S. weapons sent to Spain under a recent military aid agreement.

first 10 Amendments to the Constitution called?

On the whole, Americans 18, 19, and 20 years of age did much better than their elders in the special quiz. Individuals in this age group had an average of 41 per cent correct answers. The average score of right answers among persons 21 years and over was 28 per cent.

Next Week's Articles

Unless unforeseen developments arise, the two major articles next week will deal with (1) Puerto Rico, and (2) the opposing groups within each major party.

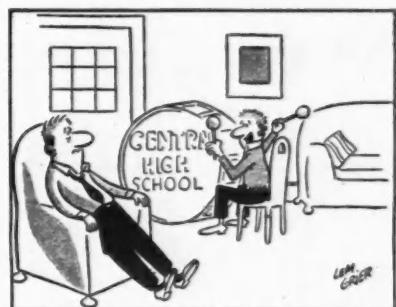
SMILES

Counsel was cross-questioning a witness in an important case. He asked: "And on the 11th of July you say you called upon Mrs. Murphy. Now what did she say?"

"I object, your honor, to the question," interrupted the opposing lawyer. Then ensued an hour's fierce argument between counsel; and in the end the judge allowed the question.

"And as I was saying," continued the first lawyer, "what did Mrs. Murphy say?"

"Nothing," was the reply. "She was out."



"That was Dixie. Now guess this one."

"Did he take his misfortunes like a man?"

"Yes, he laid the blame on his wife."

"My wife has a queer way of getting even with the telephone company," Brown confided to a friend. "She uses my car to knock down its poles."

A man in London started laughing 16 months ago and can't stop. We knew it took an Englishman a long time to get a joke, but we never realized it took him so long to get over one.

"I'll pay you next month."

"That's what you told me last month."

"Well, I'm not one of those people who say one thing one time and something else later on."

"Mother, may I go to the zoo to see the monkeys?"

"Why, Tommy! Imagine wanting to go see the monkeys when your Aunt Betsy is here!"

Pronunciations

Adib Shishakli—ädib' shi-shak'li

Brunei—bröō-ni'

Byzantine—bi-zän'tin

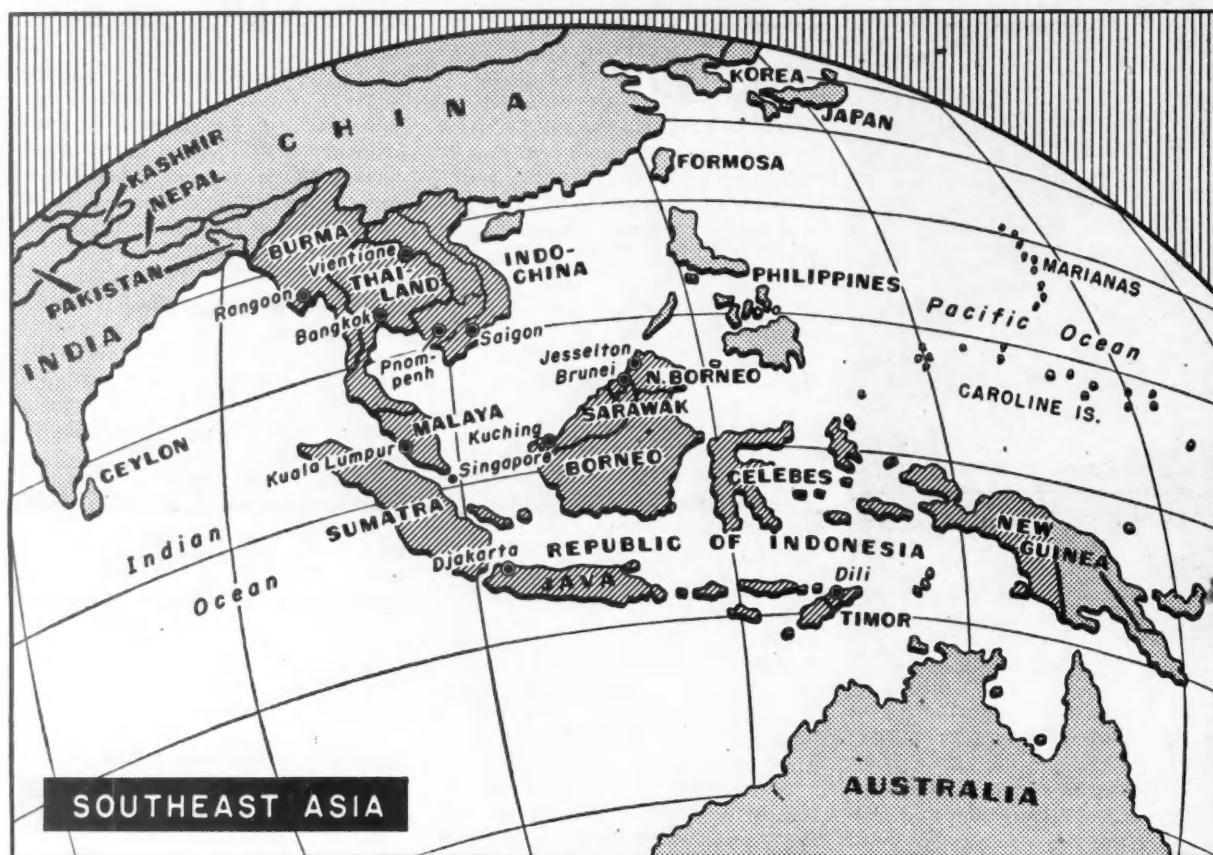
Hashem al-Attassi—häshém ál á-tä'sí

Latakia—lät'a-ké'a

Phnompenh—pnawm-péñ

Saigon—sí-göñ'

Vientiane—vyän-tyän



THERE WAS NOT room to name the states of Indochina on this map, but they can be identified by their capital cities which are shown on the map: Saigon (capital of Viet Nam), Phnompenh (Cambodia), and Vientiane (Laos)

Struggle for Southeast Asia

(Continued from page 1)

Burma. Its area of 261,749 square miles is somewhat less than that of Texas. Population, around 19 million, is about equal to that of California and Illinois together.

Once a part of the British Empire, Burma has been a completely independent republic since January 4, 1948. There is a president and a parliament. Communist rebels often cause trouble in rural areas, but they do not appear to be a serious threat to the government at present.

Major export is rice, and most of it is sold to Asiatic countries—Ceylon, India, Japan, and Indonesia. Burma buys goods chiefly from India, Japan, and Britain.

Burma's trade with us is small. We get some rubber, tungsten ore, and tin from Burma, and sell her textiles, machinery, and chemicals. Our 1952 exports to Burma totaled less than 6 million dollars. Imports from there were only about 3 million dollars.

Thailand. Area is 198,247 square miles, a bit more than that of Nevada and Utah together. Population, more than 19 million, about equals that of New York and Massachusetts together.

Thailand (formerly called Siam) has a king, 26-year-old Rama IX, but a prime minister is the real chief executive. A parliament makes the laws. Communism within the country does not now trouble Thailand. The nation is worried mostly by the danger of Red attacks from Indochina.

Rice, as in Burma, is Thailand's chief export, but rubber, tungsten, tin, and teak (a hardwood used in shipbuilding) are also important products. Singapore, the U.S., and India are Thailand's leading customers. She buys goods chiefly from British and U.S. firms.

In 1952, we bought 98½ million dollars in goods from Thailand. We purchased mostly rubber, more than 76 million dollars' worth, and tin. We

sold 58 million dollars' worth of goods to Thailand, chiefly machinery and textiles.

Indochina. Total area of 272,355 square miles is a little more than that of Texas. Population of 27½ million is more than three times that of Illinois.

Indochina formerly was French colonial territory. After World War II, it was made into three separate states—Viet Nam, Cambodia, and Laos. France supervises the states, but each has its own native government.

Indochinese Reds started their war to win power in Viet Nam in 1946. French and native troops have come close to defeat on several occasions since. American aid has been important in keeping the Reds from victory. We supply Indochina with planes, guns, and other equipment.

Indochina's main exports are rubber, rice, and corn. France and French territories are the chief customers. In turn, Indochina gets most of her imports from the French.

Our trade with Indochina is small. From her, we bought about 14 million dollars' worth of goods, chiefly rubber, in 1952. We sold her 37½ million dollars' worth of machinery and a few other items (not including our military aid).

Malayan Federation. Area, 50,680 square miles, is approximately the same as that of New York State. Population of 5½ million is somewhat more than that of New Jersey.

The region is an association of nine states with a federal government. The federation is under British protection, but Britain's authority is limited to questions of defense and foreign policy.

Communist rebels are numerous, but are kept in check by British and native troops.

Rubber and tin are Malaya's big

export products. Malaya turns out about a third of the world's tin, and leads all other nations in production of that metal. In 1951, Malaya was the world's second largest producer of rubber, and in years before World War II she usually ranked first.

Malaya's exports go to most parts of the world—to European, Asiatic, and American countries. Malaya gets most of her imports from Asia and Europe. Britain sells her sizable quantities of goods.

Our imports from Malaya are important. In 1952, we bought more than 380 million dollars' worth of Malayan goods. More than 60 per cent of our Malayan imports consisted of rubber. Most of the remainder was tin. Our sales to Malaya are comparatively small. In 1952, we sold her 36 million dollars' worth of materials—mostly machinery, chemicals, and textiles, along with grains and oil.

Indonesia. Area of its some 3,000 islands is 583,479 square miles, or about one sixth the area of the U.S. Population, close to 80 million, is almost half that of ours.

Formerly Netherlands (Dutch) colonial territory, Indonesia is now a republic with a president, premier, and parliament. Communists have tried to win power in the government on several occasions but have not been successful.

Indonesia's chief exports are rubber, oil, and tin. Her big customers are the U.S., the Netherlands, Britain, and British territories. Indonesia buys what she needs chiefly from us, Japan, and the Netherlands.

We bought more than 219 million dollars' worth of goods—mostly rubber and tin—from Indonesia in 1952. We sold her about 132 million dollars' worth of goods—chiefly machinery, textiles, and foods.

Singapore. Area is 282 square miles, just about four times larger than that of Washington, D.C. Consists of Singapore Island and several small islands. Population is just over a million, or about that of Baltimore, Maryland.

Singapore is a colony of Britain, under the administration of a British governor. It prospers primarily as a port handling Malaya's rubber, tin, and other exports.

These are the major lands of Southeast Asia. In addition, there are the less important areas of Sarawak, North Borneo, Brunei, and Portuguese Timor (see map). The first three are under the control of Britain, and the fourth one belongs to Portugal. They play a minor role from the standpoint of population and resources.

What makes Southeast Asia so vital to us and to our allies? This region is important because of its products, its geographic position from a military standpoint, and its population.

Rubber offers a good example of Southeast Asia's valuable products. We have no natural rubber of our own, but we have long consumed more than half of all the world's rubber production. We use rubber for automobile tires, in baseballs, tennis and golf balls, for conveyor belts in factories, and in countless other ways.

Before World War II, we depended on Southeast Asia for almost all our rubber supply. That supply was cut off when Japan occupied the area during the war. We turned then to Latin America and Africa for rubber, and we began to make huge quantities



IN SOUTHEAST ASIA, a visitor can see many unusual sights—such as this elephant, near Rangoon, Burma, carrying a teak log



RUBBER is a major product of Southeast Asia. This worker taps a rubber tree in Java, one of Indonesia's principal islands.



RICE HARVEST in the fertile fields of war-torn Indochina. Rice is the basic food in every one of the Southeast Asian countries.

of artificial rubber. Even with all these efforts, rubber was in short supply throughout the war.

Today, we are once again able to get the bigger share of our natural rubber supply from Southeast Asia. We also get a large amount from Latin America and Africa, and we still manufacture artificial rubber. In fact, we now use more artificial than natural rubber in industry—about 7 pounds of artificial for every 4 of natural.

Although we now use much artificial rubber, industry still considers the natural variety preferable for certain special products. So we continue to buy it in large amounts—619 million dollars' worth in 1952.

Natural rubber is even more important to our European allies, especially to Britain and France, who use little artificial rubber. If communists took over in Southeast Asia, Russia would be able to cut off the free world's Asiatic rubber supply—just as Japan did in World War II.

Tin. Its story is much the same as that of rubber. We must import about 95 per cent of all the tin we use. While we get tin now from Bolivia, the Belgian Congo, and a few other areas, we still depend heavily on Southeast Asia for much of our supply.

Rice and oil. Our country would not be hurt if it could not buy these products from Southeast Asia, but that region's rice is very important in helping to feed Japan, India, and other Asiatic nations. Southeast Asia's oil

also is vital to neighboring Asiatic countries.

Military aspects. If Russia and Red China gained power over Southeast Asia, they would be in a position to menace India, Pakistan, the Philippines, and perhaps even Japan, Australia, and other free areas. A number of military specialists believe that Russia and China could go on to conquer all Asia if they gained control of the southeastern regions.

The people. If they were to fall under communist control, the free world would have lost a sizable portion of its manpower. Russia and Red China would have added to their strength in population.

What, then, should be our attitude toward Indochina as well as all the other countries which are included in the region of Southeast Asia?

Some Americans fear that helping Indochina will lead us into a war such as the one we fought in Korea. These Americans do not want Southeast Asia to fall to communism, but they feel that we should not fight to keep the region.

Other Americans argue that we must take the risks of war in order to keep communism out of Southeast Asia. Such Americans feel that the region is far more important than Korea, for which we did fight. These people say that checking communism far from our shores is the best way to make certain that we shall not have to fight against it here.

Our Readers Say—

I hope that some woman will soon be given a chance to show that the fair sex can handle the job of President. I can think of at least three reasons why a woman would make a good President: (1) Women are adept at handling budgetary matters; (2) they have proved themselves to be good diplomats; and (3) they are sympathetic to the needs of others.

BARBARA JOHNSON,
Elyria, Ohio

well in important positions in government and in private industry.

FRANK MUELLER,
Sylvan Grove, Kansas

History tells of able women rulers, such as Britain's Queen Elizabeth I and Austria's Queen Maria Theresa. This is evidence that women can make good leaders. But I wonder how many American women really want to become President. Despite evidence to the contrary, men still consider themselves the better leaders. Maybe women should let them go on thinking so by letting them have the Presidency to themselves.

BARBARA DOHMAN,
Bayonne, New Jersey

The idea of having a woman as President of the United States is novel and entertaining, but I don't think it can become a reality at this time. The old belief that a woman's place is in the home is still too strong among many Americans to enable a woman to win a Presidential election.

ADELAIDE KELLEHER,
Richmond, Virginia

(EDITOR'S NOTE: These are some of the views readers have expressed on the issue of whether or not we should have a woman as President. We regret that we cannot print all of the many letters we have received on this subject.)

A woman as President? I don't think women have the emotional make-up needed to withstand the pressures under which a President must work. I disagree, though, with those people who contend that a woman's place is in the home. Women can and are doing very

I disagree with a reader who recently said that it is wrong for newspapers to "play up" auto accidents involving teen-agers. Young motorists should be shown in every way possible the dangers of careless drivers. Not all teen-age drivers are law-abiding.

CAROL ANN SCHMIDT,
Farmersville, Illinois

Science in the News

Oil and mining companies are taking to the air to find new sources of minerals. By means of a war-developed electronic device, these companies have obtained, since the end of World War II, more information on ore deposits than they could have collected in 100 years by the usual prospecting methods.

Mineral resources the world over are being used up at a fast rate, so industry is trying to find and open up new ore sites and oil fields. To speed their search, oil and mining companies are using the airborne magnetometer, a bomb-shaped device which measures variations in the earth's magnetic field.

The magnetometer was first used in World War II to spot submarines, but since then it has been used successfully to locate deposits of iron, chromium, nickel, oil, and asbestos.

The magnetometer is towed along by an airplane. Whenever the plane passes over deposits of ore, there is likely to be a highly magnetic ore called magnetite close to the surface. The magnetic qualities of this ore are picked up by the magnetometer.

If the instrument indicates the pos-

sibility of large deposits in a particular area, ground tests are then made. While the magnetometer often gives false clues, it also leads to some amazingly good discoveries, and requires far less time than would be required by searching methods on the ground.

A fire alarm which lets out a piercing whistle instead of clanging is being manufactured by a New Jersey firm. The alarm whistle lasts a good five minutes and can be heard for some 500 feet.

The gadget runs without electrical current. Instead, it gets power for its ear-splitting shriek from freon, an odorless, colorless gas which is compressed in the unit. The alarm works when the heat from a fire causes the gas to escape through a small opening and start the alarm.

The unit is cylinder shaped and weighs only three pounds. The manufacturer says the device can be used both in the home and factory. A bigger unit is made for industrial use which sounds the alarm for eight minutes.



GLASS BARRIERS and a speaking device enable visitors to talk with quarantined patients in this West Berlin hospital without danger of catching or spreading contagious diseases.

A Career for Tomorrow--In Dental Hygiene

HERE is a growing demand for dental hygienists, particularly in health education and service. If you have good health, good eyesight, a pleasing personality, and a sincere interest in working with people, you may want to consider this field as your life's work.

Your duties, if you decide on this profession, are prescribed by law, since they lie in the general field of health. Duties vary from state to state, but most often they include the following: Cleaning teeth, inspecting for cavities, instructing patients on correct oral hygiene, and taking and developing X-rays.

In addition, a dental hygienist may assist the dentist at the chair by preparing instruments and materials, and by making herself generally useful under the dentist's direction. She may also give talks from time to time to groups of people to teach them the essentials of good oral health.

About 65 per cent of the nation's dental hygienists are employed in private dentists' offices; another 25 per cent work in schools; and the rest find employment with federal, state, and local government agencies, the armed forces, or in industrial firms and hospitals. Almost all dental hygienists are women.

Your preparation, while in high school, should include a college preparatory course. The professional study in this field, which takes two years or more, includes such subjects as dental

anatomy, dental hygiene, bacteriology, biochemistry, public speaking, and child psychology.

All 48 states, the District of Columbia, and Hawaii require that dental hygienists be licensed before they may do professional work. Licenses are granted only to graduates of approved dental hygiene schools and are based



DENTAL HYGIENISTS are in demand and receive good pay

on the results of examinations given by the State Board of Dental Examiners. Make certain that the dental hygiene school you select is approved by your state before you enroll.

Your earnings will be good in comparison with those of other occupations requiring the same amount of training. A beginner may earn about \$50

a week whether she works for a dentist in private practice, in industry, or for a government agency. An experienced hygienist can make \$60 to \$100 a week.

Your advancement is somewhat limited because most supervisory positions in the field are held by dentists. Nevertheless, teaching and public health education offer some avenues to advance.

Advantages include the regular working hours under pleasant surroundings and with associates who are generally congenial. Also, more hygienists are needed than are now available, which makes it relatively easy for a trained person to get a job in this field.

Disadvantages are (1) the limited opportunities for advancement, and (2) the fact that dental hygienists must stand on their feet most of the day.

Further information and a list of schools giving instruction in this work may be secured from the American Dental Hygienists' Association, 1735 Eye Street, N. W., Washington 6, D. C. Information about licensing in your state can be obtained from the State Board of Dental Examiners, an agency that usually has offices in the state capital.

The man who graduates today and stops learning tomorrow is uneducated the day after.

—NEWTON D. BAKER

Study Guide

Fifth Amendment

1. Why did it become one of our established legal principles that a person cannot be forced to testify against himself?

2. How, with respect to this rule, does our nation differ from most totalitarian countries?

3. Why can a person refuse, under the Fifth Amendment, to tell whether or not he is a communist?

4. Tell what the public usually concludes when a person refuses to answer a question and says: "The reply might incriminate me."

5. Describe the means, provided by a measure now in Congress, through which a congressional committee could require testimony about the criminal activities of a witness.

Discussion

1. Do you favor the proposed law, on this subject, that the Senate has approved? Why or why not?

2. What, in your opinion, should be the public's attitude toward a person who refuses to answer questions on the grounds of possible self-incrimination? Explain your position.

Southeast Asia

1. Why do we and our allies want so urgently to bring about peace in Indochina?

2. Briefly describe Southeast Asia as a region. Tell something about its total population and area as compared with the United States.

3. What are the important products of this region?

4. Give a short sketch of two of the leading Southeast Asian countries.

5. Explain why Southeast Asia is vital to the free world from the standpoint of its products.

6. Tell something about the military significance of Southeast Asia.

7. How did World War II emphasize the importance of this region?

Discussion

1. Do you think we should continue to aid Indochina and other Southeast Asian countries, even at the risk of war with Russia and Red China? Explain your viewpoint.

2. Is Southeast Asia really vital to our own welfare? Give reasons why you think it is, or is not.

Miscellaneous

1. Was the appointment of Earl Warren as Chief Justice confirmed or turned down by the Senate?

2. What tightening of security measures has taken place as a result of the shooting episode in the House of Representatives?

3. How does the life span of the average Navajo Indian compare with that of other American citizens?

4. Name three prominent brother teams in government service at the present time.

5. Why does the argument continue over the number of government employees dismissed by the Eisenhower administration as "security risks"?

6. For what reasons do supporters of Senator McCarthy feel that he won a victory in the dispute with Army Secretary Stevens? Why do followers of Stevens feel that he emerged the victor?

7. What developments have recently been taking place in Syria?

References

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"Rubber—Artificial Rubber at Home," *Life*, January 18, 1954; picture story on a new, liquid rubber.

"Burma's Domestic Recovery," *Foreign Policy Bulletin*, December 15, 1953.

Answers to Your Vocabulary

- (b) take back; 2. (b) fierce;
- (a) prevented; 4. (b) support; 5. (a) commotion; 6. (a) draft; 7. (c) council.

Historical Backgrounds--Military Women

JUST 12 years ago, plans to take women into the U. S. military forces were nearing completion. In May 1942, the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps actually came into existence. Soon thereafter women started taking over noncombat jobs so that men could be released for service on the fighting fronts.

Actually women had helped the armed forces, though unofficially, during the Civil War. They organized themselves into small groups of relief workers to serve behind the lines. Some of the groups, including one made up of telegraph operators, made their own uniforms for the occasion.

Women first went into military uniform as a part of the Army when the Nurse Corps was organized in 1901. Even then there was considerable doubt as to whether or not the women could really do the work, and the corps was formed only after a long and bitter struggle.

During World War I, the military activities of women were expanded. General Pershing, commander of the U. S. forces in Europe, had seen the British WAAC's and asked that 100 women telephone operators who could speak French be sent to help him. He recommended that they be uniformed.

Pershing's request was granted and a group was sent to France, though the members went as civilian employees and not as part of the armed forces. Before the end of the war, more than 5,000 women had been sent overseas. They served with the Quartermaster Corps and with the Ordnance and Medical Departments.

After the war, the Army War College began seriously to study ways in which women might be used by the military forces. Actual need for them to supplement the work of the male soldiers did not arise, though, until World War II.

After the Pearl Harbor attack on December 7, 1941, the manpower situation became critical, and the use of women in the services was the obvious remedy. The first WAAC's arrived in training camp in July 1942. Provision was soon made for women to serve as reserves or auxiliaries with the Navy, Marines, and Coast Guard.

Before the end of the war, the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps was made a regular part of the army, and the word "Auxiliary" was dropped



OVETA CULP HOBBY became head of the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps in 1942. General George Marshall (center) was present as she took her oath of office.

from its name. In 1948, Congress made the women's organizations a permanent part of all branches of our military services.

At first it was thought women in service would be able to do only a few types of jobs. Within a few years, though, they had been assigned to several hundred kinds of jobs ranging from typists to gunnery instructors.

The first group of WAAC's to serve outside the United States landed in Algiers in January 1943. Twenty-seven assisted at the Potsdam Conference, and 400 worked on the atomic bomb project. War-time commander of the WAAC's was Mrs. Oveta Culp Hobby, who is now Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare in the Eisenhower Cabinet.

The WAVES—women serving with the Navy—were at first confined to duty within the continental United States, but later they were allowed to serve in Hawaii and Alaska. The first large group reported for duty in Hawaii in January 1945. The limitations on foreign duty have been removed, and today they are serving in several countries overseas.

The WAF's—women in the Air Force—and the women marines serve at many airfields and other stations both in this country and abroad. During World War II, about 10,000 women served as SPAR's with the Coast Guard, but now there are only a few women in this branch.

At the peak of World War II, there were about 275,000 women in uniform. Today there are approximately 40,000 in all the services.